



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH AIR FORCE (PACAF)
JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON ALASKA

26 April 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR ALASKA CIVIL/MILITARY AVIATION COUNCIL (ACMAC)

FROM: 11 AF/CV
9480 Pease Avenue, Suite 118
JBER, AK 99506-2100

SUBJECT: Alaska Civil/Military Aviation Council Minutes

1. The ACMAC convened April 19th, 2016 at 10:30 am in the North Terminal Badging Office Conference Room at Ted Stevens International Airport, Anchorage, AK and was broadcast via a shared desktop with audio to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in the Airport Response Center at Fairbanks International Airport, Fairbanks, AK. The meeting slides can also be found at <http://www.jber.af.mil/11af/alaskaairspaceinfo/index.asp>. Please reference the slides as you read the minutes.
2. Member Attendance: Colonel Lars Hubert, 11AF/CV, chaired the meeting. The attendance roster is attached.
3. Opening remarks by the ACMAC Chairman: Colonel Hubert welcomed everyone to the Spring 2016 ACMAC. He discussed the importance of the ACMAC in providing a forum to meet and talk about the issues facing all Alaskan aviators. He was pleased at the turn out of civilian aviation stakeholders in the audience.
4. The following agenda items were discussed:
 - a. **RED FLAG-Alaska (RF-A) Update:** Mr. Pete Bussa, 353rd Combat Training Squadron (CTS) Assistant Director of Operations, provided an overview of upcoming exercises to include RF-A 16-1, 16-2, 16-3, 17-1, and Distant Frontier. Lastly, he assured everyone that the USAF will not operate in Restricted Area R-2202 from Sept. 17th – 25th in order to facilitate moose hunting.
 - b. **Airfield Status Update:** Airfield construction plans and impacts were briefed for Ted Stevens International Airport, Elmendorf AFB, Bryant AAF, Fairbanks International Airport, Eielson AFB, and Ladd AAF. Discussions were generated on potential air traffic conflicts between Elmendorf AFB and Merrill Field. 3rd Operations Support Squadron (OSS) personnel and Merrill Field staff specifically discussed the need to better synchronize communication efforts with respect to the CARTEE Airspace.
 - c. **Lights Out Brief:** Maj Charles Bursi, 3rd Operations Group Standardization/Evaluation (OGV) F-22 Branch Chief, discussed the FAA exemptions and letter of agreements (LOAs) that allow the USAF to conduct night vision goggle (NVG) lights-out training in approved military operating areas (MOAs) and air traffic control assigned airspaces (ATCAAs). Additionally, he highlighted the importance of this training to U.S. national security. Lastly, he acknowledged that his presentation served as the annual “informational” briefing required in accordance with FAA Exemption No. 7960, with the intent to increase civil awareness of USAF lights-out operations in MOAs and ATCAAs.
 - d. **Understanding Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) Regulations:** In response to voiced UAS concerns at the Fall 2015 ACMAC, Ms. Jill Brown, research scientist at the National Institute of

Aerospace and project manager in the UAS Operations Office at NASA Langley Research Center in Virginia, presented the current legal paths to sUAS flight. Moreover, she discussed existing and emerging technologies associated with the continued integration of drones in the National Airspace System (NAS).

e. Arctic Thunder Airshow Update: Maj Mike Boyer, 2016 Arctic Airshow Open House Director, talked about the upcoming aerial performances and described the temporary flight restriction (TFR) that will occur during the airshow. He mentioned that the TFR implementation times have not been determined yet.

f. AK Flight Service Station (FSS) PIREP (Pilot Weather Report) Initiative: Mr. Andrew McClure from the FAA highlighted the importance of PIREPS in validating forecasted weather products as well as the importance of PIREPs in helping other pilots make informed decisions. Additionally, he gave multiple examples of conditions that specialists consider to effectively solicit PIREPs.

g. Air Force Noise Complaints: Mr. Tommie Baker from the 11 AF Public Affairs Office explained the noise complaint process. He also provided noise complaint data from both Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) and Eielson AFB from FY12 – FY16.

h. Open Item/Old Business Update: Special Use Airspace Information Service (SUAIS): Major Mike Curry, 11 AF Airspace and Range Manager, described the capabilities and limitations of the current SUAIS infrastructure. He then explained the actions that 11 AF has taken in an attempt to improve SUAIS radio coverage, particularly within the vicinity of the proposed Paxson and expanded Fox 3 MOAs. He concluded by stating that although 11 AF has asked its higher headquarters, Pacific Air Forces (PACAF), for more funding to procure and install a high duty cycle VHF/UHF radio near the town of Paxson, no money has been allocated to fulfill this request. This subject is on-going. Although 11 AF has proposed a solution to PACAF, we are currently awaiting on a funding solution.

i. Open Item/Old Business Update: SUAIS Testing & User Interactions: Mr. Tom George (Alaska Regional Manager Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association) and Mr. Adam White (Government Affairs Alaska Airmen's Association) described their interaction with the Air Force's SUAIS system during a recent flight on March 24th, 2016. Overall, they noted solid communications with Eielson Range Control on 125.3 MHz, other than in the northwest corner of the proposed Fox 3 Low MOA. They then presented several SUAIS follow-up questions along with several SUAIS concerns associated with the arrival of F-35 aircraft at Eielson AFB. Lastly, they stressed the need to re-energize the sub-ACMAC process, especially with regard to SUAIS.

j. Open Forum: Mr. John Pratt asked about the location and duration of the GPS jamming that is scheduled to occur during RF-A 16-3. Lt Col Shicks said that the location and duration have not yet been finalized. Additionally, Col Hubert informed Ms. Terri Tibbe that the GPS jamming will not affect runway construction at Anchorage International Airport during the upcoming summer months (given that contractors rely on GPS to accomplish various runway construction activities). Mr. Scott Christy described a safety concern that he experienced with an F-22 aircraft. Col Hubert informed Mr. Christy that the Air Force will look into this incident. Ms. Dee Hanson informed Col Hubert and Lt Col Shicks that she will provide the Air Force with information about congested civil air traffic "hot spots" in the MatSu Valley to help better educate Air Force pilots. Maj Charles Bursi mentioned that the 3rd Wing recently revised its local area orientation flying brief that is given to incoming Air Force pilots. This local area orientation flying brief includes information about Code of Regulations (CFR) Part 93 airspace.

5. Closing Comments: Col Hubert thanked all in attendance. He especially thanked Ms. Terri Tibbe, Ms. Melissa Osborn, and Mr. Dan Buchholz for accommodating the ACMAC and allowing the meeting

to take place at Ted Stevens and Fairbanks International Airports. He also reminded and encouraged everyone to attend the separate safety engagement cross-talk between civil and USAF pilots at the upcoming 2016 Great Alaska Aviation Gathering. He urged everyone to continue the civil/military dialog and looks forward to future ACMACs.

6. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 pm. The next ACMAC is tentatively scheduled to occur at 10:30 am on Tues., November 15th, 2016 in the Reeves Conference Room at JBER and in the 353 CTS Conference Room at Eielson AFB. Submit topic inputs to alaskamilitaryairspace@us.af.mil. Future ACMAC notifications will be sent out as the Fall 2016 ACMAC date nears. Questions, corrections, comments, and/or concerns should be addressed to Maj Michael Curry, 611 AOC/CODK, at (907) 552-4430 or DSN 317-552-4430.



MICHAEL J. CURRY, Maj, USAF
11 AF, Airspace and Range Team Manager

~~Approved/Disapproved~~



LARS R. HUBERT, Colonel, USAF
11 AF, Vice Commander
ACMAC Chairman

2 Attachments:

1. Spring 2016 PowerPoint Slides, 19 April 2016
2. Spring 2016 ACMAC Attendance Rosters, 19 April 2016

cc:

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